

Message Text

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65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SCCT-01 OPR-02 /033 W

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R 261055Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4262

AMEMBASSY DACCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2895

FOLLOWING REPEAT CALCUTTA 492 SENT ACTION NEW DELHI

INFO BOMBAY/MADRAS 26 FEB 76

QUOTE:

CALCUTTA 0492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJ: JAIL BREAK BY NAXALITES; STUDENT UNREST

1. OUR LOCALS REPORT THAT SOME SIXTY NAXALITES BROKE OUT OF CALCUTTA'S PRESIDENCY JAIL ABOUT 1 P.M. FEBRUARY 24. JUST WHAT OCCURRED IS UNCLEAR BUT STORY IS THAT ESCAPEES HAD HAND GRENADES AND EXPLOSIVES, AND TWO JAIL GUARDS AND ONE CENTRAL RESERVE POLICEMAN ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN KILLED. AS FAR AS IS KNOWN, ALL ESCAPEES ARE STILL AT LARGE AND SECURITY FORCES ARE ENGAGED IN LARGE SCALE MANHUNT.

2. COMMENT: PRESIDENCY JAIL IS OVERCROWDED AND SECURITY IS GENERALLY LAX THERE DESPITE FACT IT HOUSES A LARGE GROUP OF NAXALITE PRISONERS. STILL, A JAIL BREAK OF THIS SIZE IS A MAJOR OCCURRENCE, UNPRECEDENTED IN THIS AREA IN RECENT YEARS.

3. BY COINCIDENCE, DISORDER BROKE OUT AT CALCUTTA
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UNIVERSITY SAME AFTERNOON AS JAIL BREAK. WE ARE

TOLD THAT LEFTIST YOUTH CONGRESS STUDENT LEADERS
WERE TRYING TO ORGANIZE AND PUT UP POSTERS AGAINST
SANJAY GANDHI, POLICE WERE CALLED IN TO BREAK IT
UP, AND IN THE PROCESS THERE WERE INJURIES AND
ARRESTS. BROTHER OF WEST BENGAL CONGRESS SECRETARY
GENERAL SAUGATA RAY WAS REPORTEDLY AMONG THOSE
ARRESTED.

KORN

UNQUOTE.
SAXBE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, CONCENTRATION CAMPS, EXPLOSIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE02895
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760073-0520
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760210/aaaaaicx.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAIL BREAK BY NAXALITES; STUDENT UNREST
TAGS: PINT, PINS, IN
To: STATE DACCA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006